

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended.)

An apparatus for monitoring the level of a liquid in a vessel ~~[[(2)]]~~, the apparatus comprising at least one metallic probe ~~[[(10)]]~~ hermetically sealed within the vessel ~~to act as a first electrode, the probe having a sealing end and at least a portion of the probe constituting a first electrode,~~ the sealing end ~~[[(22)]]~~ of the probe being encased within a glass material, a second electrode spaced apart from said first electrode ~~to form in a manner such that the first and second electrode together form part of a capacitor,~~ means ~~[[(14)]]~~ for ~~applying an electric current to the capacitor and~~ supplying an electrical current from an applied electrical current source to the capacitor, and means for monitoring ~~the capacitance thereof~~ capacitance of the capacitor.

2. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~the vessel itself is a metallic container and acts as~~ at least a portion of the vessel is metallic and constitutes the second electrode.

3. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein the probe is made of stainless steel.

4. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 wherein the glass material is a borosilicate glass material.

5. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1 wherein ~~the probe is hermetically sealed within~~ a portion of the probe is hermetically sealed to a port provided at the top of the vessel.

6. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in claim 5 wherein the probe is sealed within a mounting ~~or cap (30)~~ that is inserted into the port of the vessel.

7. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in claim 6 wherein the mounting ~~is provided with~~ comprises electrical connections for the probe.

8. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the probe ~~is provided with~~ comprises a coating of an elastomeric material over at least a portion of the probe ~~the part that extends from the seal~~.

9. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein at least the part ~~(22) of the probe that is encased within a glass material~~ the sealing end of the probe comprises a nickel alloy.

10. (Original)

An apparatus as claimed in claim 9 wherein the alloy is an Inconel or Kovar alloy.

11. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 9 or claim 10~~ claim 10 wherein the alloy contains at least one of aluminum and ~~and~~ [[/or]] titanium.

12. (Original)

An apparatus as claimed in claim 11 wherein the alloy is Inconel X-750.

13. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of claims 6 to 12~~ claim 6 wherein the mounting ~~[[(32)]]~~ is made of a nickel alloy.

14. (Original)

An apparatus as claimed in claim 13 wherein the alloy is Inconel X-750.

15. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 further comprising monitoring means for measuring a change in capacitance.

16. (Original)

An apparatus as claimed in claim 15 further comprising a recorder for recording a change in capacitance.

17. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in claim 16 further comprising display means for ~~displaying the~~ displaying a level of liquid in the vessel.

18. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 further comprising calibration means for calibration of the apparatus whereby a particular capacitance corresponds to a particular volume of liquid within the vessel.

19. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims in monitoring the~~ claim 1 that is configured and adapted to monitor a level of organometallic compounds.

20. (Currently Amended)

An apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 18~~ claim 1 wherein the vessel is a bubbler.

21. (Currently Amended)

A bubbler containing an organometallic compound, the bubbler comprising a

sealed metallic container having an inlet pipe (4), ~~and outlet pipe (8) and a dip tube (6)~~ and, an outlet pipe, and a dip tube, the bubbler further comprising a metallic probe ~~[(10)]~~ hermetically sealed within the container, the probe having a sealing end and the sealing end ~~[(22)]~~ of the probe being encased within a glass material, the container and the probe forming a capacitor, the bubbler still further comprising means for ~~applying an electric current~~ supplying an electrical current from an applied electrical current source to the capacitor and monitoring means for measuring ~~the capacitance~~ thereof capacitance of the capacitor.

22. (Currently Amended)

A method for monitoring the level of an organometallic compound in a vessel, the method comprising the steps of inserting at least one metallic probe ~~[(10)]~~ into a vessel ~~[(2)]~~ to act as in a manner such that the probe acts as a first electrode~~[(,)]~~ and such that one end [(22)] of the probe ~~[(being)]~~ is encased in a glass material, hermetically sealing the end of the probe encased in a glass material within the vessel, providing a ~~further electrode to form a capacitor~~ second electrode in a manner such that the first and second electrodes form a capacitor, applying an electric current to the capacitor and monitoring ~~the capacitance thereof~~ capacitance of the capacitor.